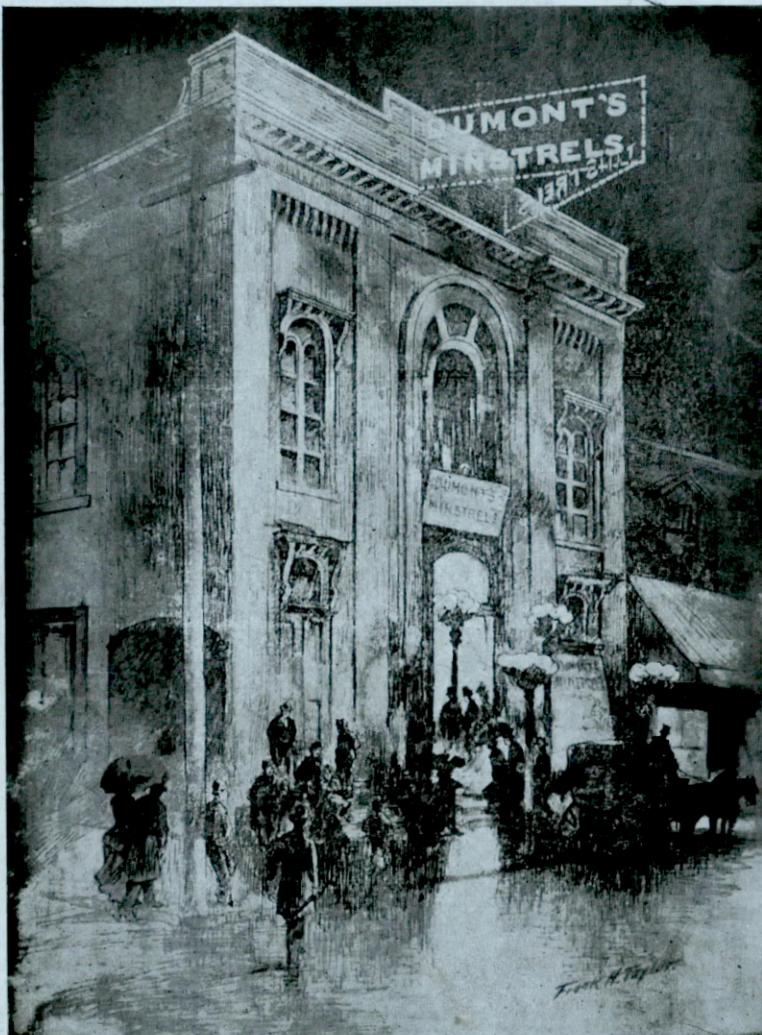


# H O B B Y BANDWAGON

(Formerly Hobby-Swapper)



August  
1947

10c

See story by Thomas Burnett of Camden, N.J.

**Hobby-Bandwagon**  
"The Collector's Monthly"  
(Formerly Hobby-Swapper)

**122 South Main Street  
Camden, Ohio**

**August 1947**  
**Vol. 2 No. 7**

**HARRY M. SIMPSON**  
Publisher

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10c a single copy.

50c a year in U. S. A.

Display advertising rates sent upon application.

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**HOBBY-BANDWAGON**, published monthly by Harry M. Simpson, Camden, Ohio. Entered as second-class matter at the post office in Camden, Ohio, under the act of March 3, 1879. Printed in U. S. A.

*The  
Publisher  
Says*



As previously announced, this issue is dedicated to the Burnt Corkers, Inc., an organization dedicated to Minstrelsy. Organized in 1941, this group adopted this publication in January as their official organ, and since that time it has been my pleasure to watch the Burnt Corkers grow in membership. As told elsewhere in this magazine by D. W. Denton, their popular secretary, the annual convention will be held Sunday, Sept. 7th at Lancaster, Ohio, the birthplace of the Burnt Corkers.

I wish to thank all for their cooperation in making this issue possible and hope to meet you during the annual convention.

The name of this publication has been changed to *Hobby-Bandwagon*, this change being made possible with the use of the official news of the Circus Historical Society under the heading, "The Bandwagon."

While writing this column, I have just returned from the annual convention of the Circus Historical Society held in Jamestown, N. Y. It was a very interesting and enjoyable occasion and all present will agree that great enthusiasm was shown throughout the three-day meet.

Meetings were conducted by their President, Mrs. Bette Leonard of Wichita, Kansas, and she did a grand job. I also extend praise to other officers present, John Crowley, secretary, Walter Pietschmann, treasurer and Don Smith, past president and founder of C. H. S.

Headquarters were at the beautiful Hotel Samuels with arrangements and reservations made by their congenial manager Burns Kattenberg. Exhibits and meetings were held in the Green Room . . . here the members spent many hours exchanging cir-  
. . . turn to page 14

## Concross & Dixie

By Thomas Burnett

Philadelphia, Pa., has always laid claim to being the home of the old time Minstrels. The Eleventh St. Opera House, last known as Dumonts, closed its doors in the spring of 1911 after a run that went back before the Civil War.

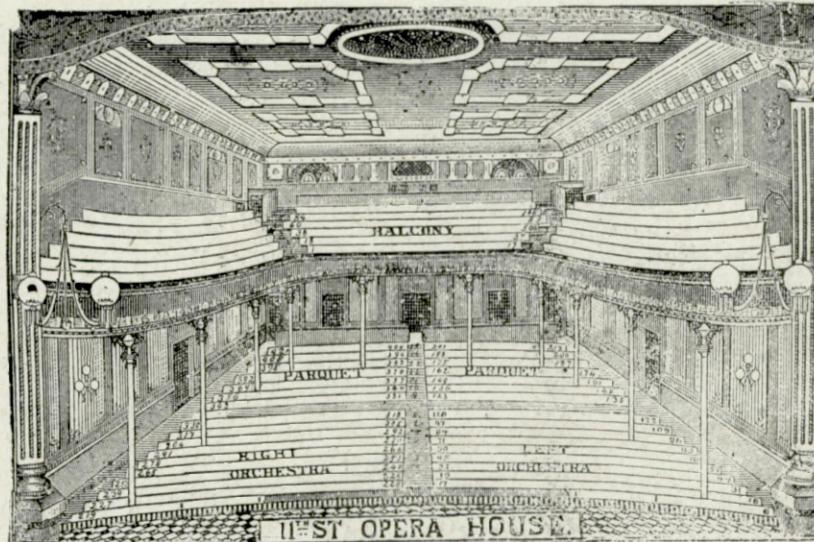
As a Play House it was one of the smallest, seating only 538, and as far as can now be ascertained the prices never changed, they being 25, 50 and 75cts, and no standing room sold, according to tradition, and further more the house was generally sold out before the performance. People are known to have come from New York and Baltimore and Washington, just to attend a performance of the Concross and Dixie Minstrels.

The building, which stood where Horn and Hardharts restaurant now stands, began life as a reformed Presbyterian of the strictest kind. It then became known as Cartee's Lyceum, which started in 1854 but soon ended in failure. About 1857, Sam Sanford took it over and did well with it. These were the days of Eph Horn, Cool and Dan Emmet, the author of Dixie. However, misfortune came along and Sanford lost his Opera House. Then along came Concross

and Dixie, who took over the House, and for years featured such stars as Slocum, Moran, Wheeler and Lew Simmons, peerless performer on the Tamborine. As a vocalist, no one ever appeared at the House that could surpass John L. Concross. He brought down the House nightly, week after week with such old ballads as Silver Threads Among the Gold, Rock Me To Sleep, and Meet Me in the Lane, When the Clock Strikes Nine and Caroona, also the Cottage by the Sea. Several old time performers laid claim to being the first original Minstrel, but T. D. Rice, who did a song and dance in black face is generally given the credit. History says he appeared at the Walnut St. Theatre in Philadelphia, Pa. four nights beginning Feb. 20th, 1833. The advertisement says also that the doors open at 6 o'clock p. m. and the performance begins at quarter of seven. Incidentally the Walnut St. theatre is the oldest one in America still in use. It was opened in 1808.

Eddie Foy and McIntyre and Heath played at this House and Weber and Fields were the first white face team and one of the very first white faced performers ever to appear in the Eleventh St. Opera House. This was about 1884, and they received \$70.00 for

Next Page, Please



the week. In 1894 ten years later, they were getting \$400.00 a week and ten years later, 1904, they were drawing \$4000.00 a week. These minstrels never made a parade, played in front of the House or never went on tour. They would have none of the new-fangled costumes as displayed by the big traveling Co.'s like Primrose and West, Al G. Fields. No plush coats, with gold buttons and no satin pants for them. They started with black evening suits and pickidilly collars and so they

continued to the end. The performance each night was brought to an end with a skit, generally on some local event, which generally brought down the house. Although he could be so hilarious on the stage, in private life John L. Concross was of a retiring nature, and never seemed inclined to talk about the success of his minstrels.

Still others to make history at this famous house were Huey Dockerty, Frank Dumont, Eddie . . . turn to page 14

<p><b>ELEVENTH ST. OPERA HOUSE</b> THE FAMILY RESORT. ORGANIZED IN 1862.</p> <p><b>CARN CROSS.</b></p> <p><b>MINSTRELS</b></p> <p>THE STAR TRouPE OF THE WORLD.</p> <p>ENTIRE CHANGE.</p> <p><b>BLOATED BONDHOLDER!</b></p> <p>Monday, October 28, 1878, and EVERY NIGHT PROGRAMME PART FIRST.</p> <p>THE TWO TRAMPS.</p> <p>PLANTATION MUSIC.</p> <p><b>PERSUASION</b> GRiffin &amp; RICE.</p> <p>STAR COURSE LECTURE</p> <p>HUCHEY DOUCHERTY</p> <p>STRAKOSCH IN A FIX</p> <p>WESLYN AND CASEY</p> <p>THE SERENADERS.</p> <p>E. M. HALL</p> <p><b>BLOATED BONDHOLDER</b> OR THE ATTACK ON THE MINT.</p> <p>Orchestra Circle, 25 Cts. Faculty Circle, 50 Cts. Balcony Circle, 75 Cts. Auditorium Circle, 10 Cts. Balcony Circle, 12 Cts. Auditorium Circle, 15 Cts. Balcony Circle, 20 Cts. Auditorium Circle, 25 Cts. Balcony Circle, 25 Cts. Auditorium Circle, 30 Cts. Balcony Circle, 30 Cts. Auditorium Circle, 35 Cts.</p>	<p><b>ELEVENTH ST. OPERA HOUSE</b> THE FAMILY RESORT. ORGANIZED IN 1862.</p> <p><b>CARN CROSS.</b></p> <p><b>MINSTRELS</b></p> <p>THE STAR TRouPE OF THE WORLD.</p> <p>POSITIVELY LAST WEEK</p> <p><b>HELEN'S BABIES</b></p> <p>SCREAMS OF DELIGHT.</p> <p>A SPLENDID PROGRAMME FOR THIS WEEK</p> <p>Monday, November 18, 1878, and EVERY NIGHT PROGRAMME PART FIRST.</p> <p>THE TWO TRAMPS.</p> <p>DANCING ON THE GREEN GRiffin &amp; RICE.</p> <p><b>4 INNOCENTS 4</b></p> <p>WESLYN &amp; CASEY.</p> <p>STAR COURSE LECTURE</p> <p>HUCHEY DOUCHERTY</p> <p>THE FRENCH MILLINERS!</p> <p>E. M. HALL</p> <p><b>HELEN'S BABIES</b></p> <p>CHIMES OF NORMANIE,</p> <p>Orchestra Circle, 25 Cts. Faculty Circle, 50 Cts. Balcony Circle, 75 Cts. Auditorium Circle, 10 Cts. Balcony Circle, 12 Cts. Auditorium Circle, 15 Cts. Balcony Circle, 20 Cts. Auditorium Circle, 25 Cts. Balcony Circle, 25 Cts. Auditorium Circle, 30 Cts. Balcony Circle, 30 Cts. Auditorium Circle, 35 Cts.</p>
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Geo. Evans, Pres., L. E. Brown, V.P., C. J. Tripp, Treas.  
D. W. Denton, Secy., Lancaster, Ohio  
Anne L. Denton, Asst. Secy.

DIRECTORS: A. O. Brown, Chas. McClintonch,  
Karl L. Denton, Elmer Jackson, Perrin Hazleton,  
J. Lester Haberkorn, Oak Shannon.

Official Publication: HOBBY-BANDWAGON

## Burnt Corker Convention At Lancaster, O. Sept. 7

By D. W. Denton, Sec'y

Sunday, September the seventh, 1947, is the date on which the Seventh Annual basket picnic and reunion of Burnt Corkers will be held in connection with the annual convention. The site selected for this year's meeting is the Rising Shelter House in beautiful Rising Park at Lancaster, Ohio.

At the June meeting of the Board of Directors, committees were set up to attend to the many details that contribute to the success of the get-together.

As has been the custom in the past, the selection of next year's president was taken up at this meeting. Mr. J. Lester Haberkorn of Lancaster, Ohio, and Chatsworth, Ill. was elected to take office on Sept. 7th, for the ensuing year. In selecting Mr. Haberkorn, we feel we are bringing to the organization's top office, a capable, efficient and well qualified Minstrel man to carry out the duties of this office.

Having had years of professional experience in the Big Minstrel Shows we feel he will be able to reach out into the field of ex-pro Minstrel Mokes and do a bang-up job of carrying out the program of promotional and expansion plans instituted some months ago.

Due to the tremendous volume of correspondence which is a necessary part of the secretary's duties, the Board elected at this same meeting, Miss Anne L. Den-

ton to the post of assistant secretary, while the writer is spending the summer with the Mighty Hoosier State Shows in Indiana.

At the present time, the roster of officers and Board members reads as follows: Mr. George Evans, president of Lancaster, Ohio, Mr. Loring E. Brown, vice-pres. of Columbus, Ohio, Mr. Charles Tripp treasurer, of Lancaster, Ohio, Mr. D. W. Denton, secretary of Lancaster, Ohio, Miss Anne L. Denton, assistant secretary of Lancaster, Ohio, Mr. Perrin Hazleton, publicity of Lancaster, Ohio, Mr. J. Lester Haberkorn, M. Karl R. Denton, Mr. A. O. Brown, Mr. Elmer Jackson, Mr. Charles McClintonch, all of Lancaster, Ohio, and Mr. Oak Shannon of Columbus, Ohio.

Attorney for all legal details in connection with Burnt Corkers Incorporation, is Mr. Allen Silbaugh of Lancaster, Ohio. The editor, who has complete charge of all items written for our official publication is Mr. Harry M. Simpson of Camden, Ohio.

Among the ex-Minstrel Mokes, who at some time or other, have already or will contribute interesting yarns for our Burnt Cork column are Mr. J. Lester Haberkorn of Lancaster, Ohio, and Chatsworth, Ill., Mr. C. Spencer Chambers of Syracuse, N. Y., Mr. A. L. Chumley of Chattanooga, Tenn., Mr. Chas. Duble of Jeffersonville, Ind., Mr. John E. Clark of Rutland, Vt., Mr. Lou Harvey of Bedford, Va., Mr. Chas. Lucks of Columbus, Ohio, Mr. Chris W. Viohl, jr. of Wilmington, Del., Mr. Thos. Burnett of Camden, N. J., Mr. Harry M. Jackson of Detroit, Mich., Mr. J. H. Hutchison of Logan, Ohio, Mr. Ed H. Condon of Pomeroy, Ohio, Mr. Loring E. Brown of Columbus, Ohio, Mr. Karl Cartwright of Sparks Circus and club news by the secretary.

From all indications, this year's convention attendance will top all previous records due to the large increase in membership since the

turn to page 13

### CASH — MINSTREL — CASH

Highest prices paid for Minstrel Programs, Heralds and Photos. List issued each month.

**C. SPENCER CHAMBERS**  
P.O. Box 722.      Syracuse 1, N. Y.

## Collections, Collectors and Hobby Varieties

By Katherine J. Justh Baross

"Great souls have wills; feeble ones have wishes"—Selected.

### The Liberty Bell

America's sacred relic, the Liberty Bell in Independence Hall, arrived at Philadelphia late in August 1752. Measuring twelve feet around the rim, seven and half feet around the crown, weighing 2000 pounds, this bell was cast in London by Thomas Lister, in his ancient bell foundry in existence since year 1570.

When the new bell arrived from London it was hung on trusses in the square then known as State House Yard at Philadelphia. In less than a month while its sonorous timbre was being tested, the bell cracked.

Two bell-founders, John Pass and Charles Stow, jr., were commissioned to break up and recast this cracked bell. To have it less brittle they added to each pound of bell metal one and half ounce of American copper, apparently too much, because the bell recast lost its sonorous timbre and sounded decidedly hoarse.

The two bell-founders, Pass & Stow, broke up the bell again and cast it once more. Now in the inscription of the bell they eliminated the name of the original bell-founder, Thomas Lister, also the place and date of the first founding, but kept the original motto of this bell, taken from Leviticus, XXV 10: "Proclaim Liberty throughout all the Land, unto all the inhabitants thereof."

Placed upon the State Hall in Philadelphia, this recast bell then was used to announce any important occurrence. When the Congress of 1776 assembled, on July 8, four days after the Declaration of Independence was signed, the Liberty Bell rang out the solemn event.

While Philadelphia in 1777 was occupied by the British, the Liberty Bell was removed to Lancaster. Later it was returned again to its place and was used as a State House bell until 1828. After this

time it was rung only on extraordinary occasions, when on the funeral of Chief Justice John Marshall, July 8, 1835, the Liberty Bell had cracked again. The last time it was rung was in honor of the visit of Henry Clay to Philadelphia when the bell broke.

With other relics of the Revolutionary times, the Liberty Bell was placed in 1877 in the old Independence Hall and was hung by a chain of 13 links. In 1878 the Bell was placed on its original black walnut frame, also inclosed in a glass case. This glass case was removed in 1915, that visitors may touch the relic. The standard and walnut frame was equipped with rollers, that the precious bell may be rolled away in case of danger.

During Word War II, in April 1944, a steel and concrete vault was built beneath its present location, the first floor of Independence Hall. The ceiling of this vault is the platform on which the frame and standard rest. By the touch of an emergency button the platform with the Liberty Bell sinks into the vault and the 16 inch block of steel and concrete normally concealed under the flooring, automatically, slides over the top. In this vault-work six tons of steel were used, and while the work went on, the Liberty Bell was moved into an adjoining room.

The question shall the Liberty Bell be mended by electric welding is under discussion by leading metallurgists.

In the famed American bell collection of Nathaniel Spear, jr., which collection a decade ago, numbered 885 specimens, a small bronze bell, the replica of the Liberty Bell, contains grains of metal filed from the crack of the original during its repair. The frame from which this small bell hangs was constructed from a piece of beam once a part of Independence Hall, Philadelphia.

### The "Tom Sawyer" Manuscript

At the Spring Antiques Show in Los Angeles, we saw the original manuscript of "Tom Sawyer", exhibited by the Hartwell Galleries. Mr. Hartwell, who is in the aeroplane manufacture business, runs his gallery as a hobby and delight-

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## Brief Minstrel History

George Merritt Clark was born in Clarendon, Vermont, in 1833. His musical talents were evident at an early age—at thirteen he started playing the violin for dances. In 1854 he moved to Felchville where he worked as a marble cutter and taught singing. In 1859 he moved to Jacksonville, Florida, where he taught music, tuned pianos and led church choirs. It was during this stay in Florida that he had a chance to observe the "darkies" and store away many bits of "business" for future use.

Osceola A. Whitmore, born in 1838, in Reading, Vermont, was a clarinet virtuoso at an early age. When Clark moved to Felchville, they became bosom friends and were always "getting up shows." During George Clark's stay in Florida, Whitmore joined the Barnum Circus band and there learned the show band style that made the later day Whitmore & Clark's bands and orchestras famous throughout New England.

Azro "Hank" White was born in Cavendish, Vermont, in 1833. His father was a printer and young Hank worked at the trade from 1850 to 1858. He then went to New York and much of his spare time was taken up in witnessing minstrel shows in the theaters there. He returned to Vermont in 1860, filled with the ambition of donning the cork for a career.

In the Spring of 1860, the "Broadway Minstrels" was organized with George Clark, O. A. Whitmore, Sam Brock and Hank White co-stars and equal owners. They played the small towns of Vermont and New Hampshire until 1862 when the "stars" enlisted in the Union Army.

In 1864 and '65 the show was known as "Whitmore & Thompson's Minstrels" and besides touring New England showed in New York state and Canada, holding their old public and gaining new admirers.

In 1866 E. P. (Press) Hardy of Keene, New Hampshire, became a partner and general manager of the show which opened that season as "Whitmore & Clark's Minstrels" which title was retained until the show was taken off the road.

In the Fall of each year, the troupe would have a few rehearsals in Felchville, then go on the road and be out till June when George Clark would go out as singing clown with a circus. He was with the United States Circus in 1867, and thence after with J. M. French's Oriental Circus, Geo. F. Bailey's Circus & Menagerie, Barnum's Travelling World's Fair, and lastly with Barnum, Bailey & Hutchinson.

The last performance of the minstrels was always given in Felchville and the proceeds were turned over to the Reading Library.

Whitmore stayed with the troupe for 12 years and in 1878 left to appear as solo clarinetist with various Boston musical organizations.

The show was fortunate in having a loyal public. Season after season when they made the towns on their route they were welcomed as "old friends" and, although the company was made up of capable entertainers and musicians, many towners said they went to "see Hank White perform and hear George Clark sing."

The show made a good appearance on the street; Hardy led the parade; both Whitmore and Clark played in the band. Clark was musical director of the show and wrote many numbers used during the performance. The nightly concerts in front of the house they were playing were noted for the clarinet solos of Whitmore, Gus Hodgeman's trombone work and the snappy drumming of Amiel Rockwood.

They were pretty proud of their first part—a circle with Hank White "Tambo" and George Clark "Bones" with the orchestra on the elevation in back with Whitmore leading, all in blackface. No matter what overture was used before the curtain was drawn, they would generally swing into "Hurrah for Old New England" during the opener.

Clark and White married sisters and lived alongside each other in Felchville. George Clark died at his home June 5, 1885 and Hank died there Feb. 14, 1900.

True troupers, may they rest in peace!

—John E. Clark

# The Bandwagon

News and Activities of the  
**CIRCUS HISTORICAL SOCIETY**

Founded In 1939  
By Don Smith

Harry M. Simpson ..... Editor

## OFFICERS

Bette Leonard ..... President  
Maurice Alaire ..... Vice-Pres.  
Walter Pietschmann ..... Treas.  
John Crowley ..... Secretary  
William Green ... Election Comm.

## PAST PRESIDENTS

Don Smith  
Walter Tyson  
Arthur Stensvard  
John VanMatre

## CONVENTION

The second annual convention of the Circus Historical Society as described in the publisher's column was held at Jamestown, N. Y., with headquarters in the Hotel Samuels on July 11-12-13.

Members and guests registering for the banquet on Saturday evening were as follows:

## CONVENTION ROSTER

Members and guests that registered for the convention banquet held Saturday evening, July 12, in the Gretchen Kitchen of the Hotel Samuels were Joseph Tracy, Elsie Tracy, E. D. Donewirth, Barney Shevlin, Leonora Shevlin, all of Buffalo, N. Y., John C. Kunzog, Dr. L. B. Sample, Burns Kattenberg, Jack Livingston, Gladys Koford, Mildred Peate, Marv Jane Kunzog, "Whitey" Newell, all of

Jamestown, N. Y., Walter Pietschmann, Don Smith, Clyde Wixom, Leona Wixom, all of Detroit, Mich., John VanMatre, Sylvia Van Matre, Ruth VanMatre, all of Philadelphia, Pa., Charles Henry White, Fredonia, Kans., Bette Leonard, Wichita, Kans., Mr. and Mrs. C. Spencer Chambers, Syracuse, N. Y., Charles S. Amadon, Walter L. Main of Geneva, Ohio, Murray Guy, Jeanette, Pa., Elmer Jones, Warren, Pa., Charles Kistler, Edna Kistler, James MacInes of Allentown, Pa., John J. Crowley of Cambridge, Mass., and Harry M. Simpson of Camden, Ohio.

## BUSINESS SESSION

The meeting was called to order by Bette Leonard, president of the Society, who introduced the officers of the C. H. S.

Don Smith, founder of the Society, was introduced and read the "Purposes and Aims of the Circus Historical Society" as adopted at the founding in 1939.

Walter Pietschmann gave the treasurer's report and reported \$125.13 in the general fund and \$50.90 in the museum fund.

Next Page, Please

## 5 x 7 Enlargements

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## SHANK PHOTOS

Clarence R. Shank  
Camden, Ohio

## CIRCUS — WANT TO BUY — MAGIC

Cash for Circus and Magic programs, posters, heralds, couriers, old prints, books (fact), letters, letter heads, photos, route books, songsters, handbills, lithographs, etc. State all in first letter, giving dates, number, condition, price. Cash paid day items received. America's foremost dealer in Circus material.

## C. SPENCER CHAMBERS

P. O. BOX 722 : SYRACUSE 1 : NEW YORK

The "Bandwagon" was discussed and it was decided that arrangements would be made between Harry M. Simpson, editor and the officers for the publishing of official news of the C. H. S.

Chas. B. Kistler of Allentown, Pa., proposed that dues be made payable at the same date each year.

A vote of thanks was given Burns Kattenberg, manager of the Hotel Samuels for the fine convention arrangements and reservation.

Don Smith proposed a Society sticker for automobiles to identify members.

Pres. Bette Leonard introduced Walter L Main, Elmer Jones, C. H. White and John C. Kunzog, who related interesting stories of the circus and their collections. Mr. Kunzog is the newest member having joined during the convention.

Mrs. Leonard explained the "Auction Block." Items contributed by members are sold through auctions and the proceeds will be

used to finance rooms in a National Museum.

#### CONSTITUTION OF THE CIRCUS HISTORICAL SOCIETY

The following Constitution and By-Laws were submitted by Don Smith, Bill Kasiska and F. A. Norton:

##### Article I

The name of the Society shall be "Circus Historical Society" as founded by Don Smith in 1939, and the official publication shall be "The Bandwagon" to be published monthly and to include a post card size historical photograph.

##### Article II

The purpose shall be to form one consolidated group of all serious collectors of Circusiana, regardless of their collecting interest or material serving to perpetuate the memory of the Circus of all time.

To help the Circus of today and tomorrow through frequent public showing of various collections; through stories of our most able writers; and through our personal contact among friends, before and during each show's stay in our vicinity.

To pay tribute to the famous shows and showmen of the past, through a constantly growing National Collection, later to be presented to a selected museum for suitable display. This display will comprise articles large or small, contributed by our members, performers, circus owners and managers, and full credit shall be given such contributors at all times.

Next Page, Please

#### ANNOUNCING THE FORMATION OF A NEW GROUP

### CIRCUS LITERARY SOCIETY

Our group will be devoted exclusively to the collection and promotion of Circus Literature, Music and Art.

Membership will be limited to the Literati of Circusdom. A Quarterly Magazine will be published with its circulation limited to members of the Society. If you are eligible, write for Particulars.

WENDELL GOODWIN  
CIRCUS LITERARY SOCIETY  
P.O. Box 653  
Trenton 4, New Jersey

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Nashville 4, Tenn.

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CAMDEN HOBBY CENTER  
(Since 1940)  
926½ Broadway Camden, N. J.

### **Article III**

Membership in the Society shall be open to collectors only, to man or woman, of good character, who has attained the age of eighteen years.

### **Article IV**

The officers of the Society shall be: a President, Vice-President, Treasurer and a Secretary. The Board of Directors shall consist of the directors of the ten (10) divisions known as Bandwagons. The President, Vice-President, Treasurer and Secretary shall be elected by ballot from names submitted by each division. Directors shall be elected by the members of each division.

### **Article V**

A meeting of the members known as the National Convention shall be held annually at a time and place selected by the President.

The fiscal year shall begin the first day of May and end the last day of April in each year.

### **Article VI**

Members of the divisions having a membership of twenty-five (25) or more may organize their own tabavues or dens.

## **BY-LAWS OF THE CIRCUS HISTORICAL SOCIETY**

### **Article I**

Any man or woman, a collector of the circus, of good character, and has attained the age of eighteen, who has been admitted to the Circus Historical Society shall pay annual dues of \$3.00 a year, payable in advance on the first day of May of each year. This shall include the wife or husband of each member as an associate member. Dues of single persons shall be \$2.00. Members whose dues are not paid within sixty days after due, shall be dropped from membership and will not receive "The Bandwagon."

### **Article II**

No member shall use his or her membership card to obtain courtesies, favors or to become a nuisance or pest on the Circus lot.

### **Article III**

No member shall be guilty of copying other members original photographs, and, if found guilty of such practice shall be expelled from the Society and these names shall be published in the Bandwagon.

### **Article IV**

There shall be a annual report of the treasurer published in "The Bandwagon" twice a year.

NOTE—All changes or omissions to the above will be published in future issues.

## **CONVENTION PHOTOS**

Photographs of the convention will appear in the September issue of Hobby-Bandwagon. The pictures did not arrive in time for this issue.

## **CHS PHOTOGRAPH**

The circus photograph sent to members of Circus Historical Society this month is through the courtesy of Walter Tyson, past president of Guelph, Ontario, Canada. The photograph shows a 10-horse hitch drawing a richly carved Bandwagon of the Howes Great London Shows for 1922. Other photographs will be furnished by CHS members in rotation of their Society number.

## **CAMDEN CARD SERVICE**

### **POST CARDS ISSUED BEFORE 1910 OUR SPECIALTY**

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## **POSTCARD COLLECTORS**

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**WANTED — 1921 SELLS-FLOTO program. State condition and price. Harry M. Simpson, Camden, Ohio.**

### NEW CHS MEMBERS

- 322—Earl Wentz, 331 E. 21st St., Northampton, Pa.  
323—Frank H. Braden, 418 E. Court St., Allentown, Pa.  
324—Harry M. Sieslov, 443 Allen St., Allentown, Pa.  
325—Harry M. Simpson, 279 N. Main St., Camden, Ohio.  
326—Paul E. Roberge, 13 Mason St., Biddeford, Maine.  
327—Harry A. Arnold, 2731 Clio, P. O. Box 1083, New Orleans, La.  
328—Henry N. Brogna, 505 Union St., Allentown, Pa.

This is the list of new members to June 2, 1947.

John J. Crowley, Sec'y.

—o—

### CHS NOTES

CHS F. M. Farrell was injured in a bad truck crash while the James M. Cole circus was touring Ohio and is still a patient in the hospital.

Greeting advertisements for the Christmas issue may be sent in now and must reach the publisher by October 15th. These advertisements will cost \$1, \$2, \$3, \$5 and \$10 depending on size.

—o—

## Brown Dedicates Circus Music to James M. Cole II

After witnessing the afternoon performance of the James M. Cole Circus at Niles, Mich., July 19th, Mr. C. L. Brown, ex-bandmaster on the Sells-Flote Circus Band, during the years 1917, 18, 19 and 20, has completed a snappy 2-4 march entitled "Ponderous Pachyderm", which he has dedicated to "Tiny Tot", James M. Cole 2nd.

Mr. Brown has dedicated this to James 2nd because of his admiration for his work with the elephants in the performance, and also because he thinks it the finest truck show he has ever seen, and for the marvelous treatment afforded him by Mr. Cole, and all his employees.

He stated that his visit in Niles was most enjoyable, and brought back many memories of his numerous years trouping with Sells-Flote.

Mr. Brown also was a member

of the Original Brown's Saxaphone Sextet which toured for many years on both this continent and the European continent.

At present Mr. Brown is connected with the Genarts Music Studio in South Bend. He tells the writer the height of his ambition at the present time is to climb on a band wagon and parade down the street again.

—o—

### MINSTREL MEMORIES

By Karl Cartwright

I am glad that I lived in the good old days of Minstrel Shows. Now I will recall a few things, first I will mention some of the advertising matter used by the different Minstrel troupes, Cohars and Haines Honey Boy Minstrels put out a little book, the shape of a Bee Hive book containing pictures of all the features in the show and it sure was some show. Al G. Fields show used a herald the size of a newspaper and was called the Daily Review. Neil O'Brien used some clever sayings on his bill such made in America; "Make Minstrel Day a Holiday," "Street Parade of Class and Color," All the Minstrel Shows used flashy pictorial lithographs, heralds, etc.

The noon day street parade and band concert in front of the Theatre were also great features.

Here are a few of the comic songs sung by the end men: "I Will Never Be So Foolish Again," "I Remember Dan Holt sang the above for years with the Gorrit Coburns Minstrels, then there were "You Are In the Right Church but the Wrong Pew," "Ain't Nobody Goner Make a Fool Out of Me," "Let It Alone," "Thats Music To Me," "I get Lots of Consolation, "Possum Pie," "I May Be Crazy, But I Aint No Fool," "I Did Not Ask Him, He Did Not Say So, I Dont Know," the end song "Smile Just Simply Smile," sung by Neil Oliver impressed me as the best of them all, "Rip Van Winkle Slept With One Eye Open," sung by Bennie Franklin with Dumont's Minstrel in Philadelphia.

If this meets with the readers' approval I will send in the names of the ballads sung in the Minstrel Shows.

## COLLECTORS, COLLECTIONS

.....from page 6

ed to show us the folio which contained the original Mark Twain manuscript, now valued at \$15,000.

Compiled by his literary agent, M. D. Conway, into a folio, the Mark Twain manuscript is written in well rounded, large letters on four by eight inch size stationery, and contains 645 handwritten pages.

The compiler, Mr. Conway, placed four of these handwritten pages on one large sheet of thick vellum paper, pasted the edges of these handwritten pages, cut out the vellum so that the handwriting can be read on both sides of the manuscript.

We read the "preface" in Mark Twain's handwriting:

"Most of these adventures recorded in this book really occurred, one or two were experiences of my own, the rest of those of those boys who were schoolmates of mine. Huck Finn is drawn from life; Tom Sawyer also, but not from an individual—he is a combination of the characteristics of three boys whom I knew—

Hartford 1876

The Author"

The compilation also contains the proof page number of the books, an agreement with the London publisher, Chatto & Windus, and the correspondence of Mark Twain with his agent M. D. Conway, also an account of the royalties on Mark Twain's books published by Chatto & Windus from June 1877 to June 1887.

Of course this relic made us peruse again the American classic, "Tom Sawyer."

Odd fact: In the Public Libraries we found the author of Tom Sawyer registered by his true name: Samuel Clemens, and not by his chosen plume name "Mark Twain."

### Centennial Edition

The Centennial Edition of the Chicago Daily Tribune, published June 10, 1947, commemorated the hundredth anniversary of this newspaper. Their first issue was printed on June 10, 1847. "The first edition of the Tribune was but 400 copies, worked off by one of the editors as pressman, upon a Washington hand press," wrote

Capt. A. T. Andreas, noted historian of Chicago.

Abraham Lincoln was subscriber to this paper. Here is the copy of his letter:  
"Springfield, June 15, 1859  
Press & Tribune Co.  
Gentlemen:

Herewith is a little draft to pay for your daily another year from today. I suppose I shall take the Press & Tribune so long as it, and I both live, unless I become unable to pay for it—in its devotion to our cause always, and to me personally last year I owe a debt of gratitude, which I fear I shall never be able to pay.

Yours very truly,

A. Lincoln."

It is regrettable that all the first copies, all the first volumes of the Chicago Daily Tribune were lost, that is all first issues from June 10, 1847, to April 23, 1849, were consumed by the great Chicago fire which occurred on October 8-9, 1871.

No copy of these first issues is known in existence. If you ever happen to run into such a precious issue dated of these times, this means treasure. May it be pasted on the back of an old picture, in hiding under a rug in well worn layers as padding, in the back of a mirror as stuffing, perhaps it might be mixed in with other papers, or used as first lining in a trunk, or it might turn up on some attic shelf—one single sheet of these lost issues would be high-priced collector's item.

California, August, 1947

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## FOR SALE

USED BOOKS, FICTION, MYSTERY, Literature and old text books. State your interest. List free. L. D. Keller, Route 10, Springfield, Mo. 3t747

DOVES, FANCY PIGEONS. LIST free. Powers, 116-18th, Dunbar, W. Va. 3t6

MOVIE STAR PINUP PHOTOS—Breaking up my collection. Fine for den, bedroom, recreation room, album. Glamour figures, 15 for \$1; portraits, 20 for \$1; men stars, 20 for \$1. Del Bodey, RFD 3, Westerville, Ohio. 3t7

1-2c UP QUALITY STAMPS ON approval. Wide variety. For beginners and advanced collectors. Anton A. Dvorak, 2419 So. Homan Ave., Chicago 23, Ill. 647

ALL THE LATEST MAGIC. GOOD used Magic. Circulars free, stamps appreciated. Powers, 116-18th, Dunbar, W. Va. 3t6

FOR SALE—NINE OLD WAVERLEY novels from 1931, \$1.00 each. Lou Hayek, Toledo, Iowa.

20 DIFFERENT USED U. S. stamps, price 25 cents. Address Marty, Box 134, P. O. Annex, Cincinnati 14, Ohio.

## WANTED

WANTED TO BUY FOR CASH—Brass lamps, coins, guns, automobile trade journals, flasks, cast iron, banks and toys, old automobiles, carriages, or what have you to sell or trade. L. D. Hurst, Box 374, Galena, Kansas. x3t747

I WANT TO BUY OLD U. S. stamps on or off cover, also early Ohio covers, APS. 17819, E. C. Blank, 242 Irving Ave., Dayton 9, Ohio.

## WANTED

WANTED TO BUY—CHARACTER type tobacco jars of all kinds. Send description and price. Also will swap for duplicates. Norman W. Habersat, 4101 W. Roosevelt Dr., Milwaukee 10, Wis. 6t8

WANTED—CONTACTS WITH stamp collectors living in Ohio or anyone having Ohio Precancels to sell or swap. Dave Kelly, 28 Water St., West Milton, Ohio. tfc.

WANTED — ADVERTISING PENS, advertising and political buttons, celluloid and metal. Fred S. Ring, Route 3, Owatonna, Minn. 6t47

WANTED—WOODEN NICKELS—Singles, Sets, Collections—U. S. or foreign. Will swap for match covers, cigar bands, stamps or buy. S. H. Cleaver, 4026 Glendale St., Phila. 24, Pa. 3t847

—o—

## CONVENTION

. . . . . from page 5  
1946 meeting. There are now, approximately four hundred names on our mailing list as against some three hundred on last year's list.

Officials notices and invitations will be sent to all during the early part of August and as mentioned above, if attendance can be estimated from the "I'll-be-there" letters received to date, we will need rubber walls on the Shelter House to hold 'em all.

Many new "turns" are anticipated for the impromptu entertainment which always follows the family group picnic and business sessions.

Come September the seventh meet, let's all keep our fingers crossed for a day of blue skies and sunshine so that when the time comes for the goodbye kisses, fond adieus and bon voyages, we can all say "a good time was had by all at the Seventh Annual Burnt Corkers Convention."

## CONCROSS AND DIXIE ... from page 4

Cassidy, Joseph Hortez, Charles W. Boyer and Uncle Joe Hamilton. Boyer and Hortez are the only two still living. Uncle Joe Hamilton died at his home in Camden, N. J., Jan. 17th, 1946, and speaking of his death, editorially, the Camden Daily papers had this to say:

### JOE HAMILTON, JOY-SPREADER

Joe Hamilton, the minstrel man, was a little fellow who probably had as many friends as anyone in South Jersey.

From childhood his principal aim in life was to make others happy.

He succeeded, on stage and off.

Only two weeks before his death he performed for the people in Camden County's institution at Lakeland.

More Joe Hamiltons would make Camden, and America a better place in which to live.

After the building was torn down the Minstrels moved to Ninth and Arch into the old Brandenburg Museum Building, which contained a nice little Theatre with two balconies. But the hand writing could be seen on the wall. The Minstrels the same as the legitimate stage, was giving way slowly but surely to the glamour of the movies, the grand finale came when the building burned to the ground. At that time the house was being managed by Emmet Welch, Frank Dumont, having died in 1919. Al Jolson appeared on the stage of this House. The walls were pulled down in 1929, and the Minstrels became only a fond memory of the past.

### THE PUBLISHER SAYS

... from inside front cover

cus lore and viewing the priceless exhibits.

The banquet was held Saturday evening in the Gretchen Kitchen of the Hotel Samuels. Walter Pietschmann acted as ringmaster and in a very capable manner, introduced all members present, each relating an experience pertaining to the circus. A highlight of the banquet were the talks by Walter L. Main, Elmer Jones and Murray Guy. Mrs. Bette Leonard was presented with

a corsage by the members . . . a token of respect for her fine work as president of C. H. S.

Memorial services were held Sunday morning in Lakeview cemetery, for the departed members, at the graveside of former CHS member William Koford.

The three-day session ended with a trip to Celoron Park, on beautiful Lake Chautauqua, and we were conducted through the park by the popular Floyd (Whitney) Newell, park manager. There was a special band concert of circus music by the Jamestown Moose Band under the direction of Maurice Swanson, giving all the "Big Top" atmosphere. Everyone enjoyed the rides, including the roller coaster . . . ask Mrs. Leonard (?).

It was a grand convention held by a great organization. I certainly enjoyed meeting each and every member and will look forward, with pleasure, to meeting them at the next convention or on the lot.

Sincerely,  
Harry M. Simpson

## Business Directory

Rate—three lines for 6 months, no change in copy, \$3.00; or 12 months for \$5.00.

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**GLASS, CHINA, BUTTONS, CURRIER & IVES, HISTORICAL ITEMS.** Almost everything except furniture. Mrs. Lou R. Pierce, Second St., one street off U. S. 127, Camden, Ohio. 6t3

**NEW & USED BOOKS, BACK COPIES MAGAZINES.** Pat's Trading Post, 105 W. Main, Johnson City, Tenn.

**ANTIQUES—GENERAL LINE FURNITURE, CHINA, GLASS.** U. S.-27, between Millville-Oxford. Mr. and Mrs. Harold Sapp.

**ANTIQUES—WHEN IN CAMDEN,** stop at Hattie Hibbins, S. Main St., Camden, Ohio. x6

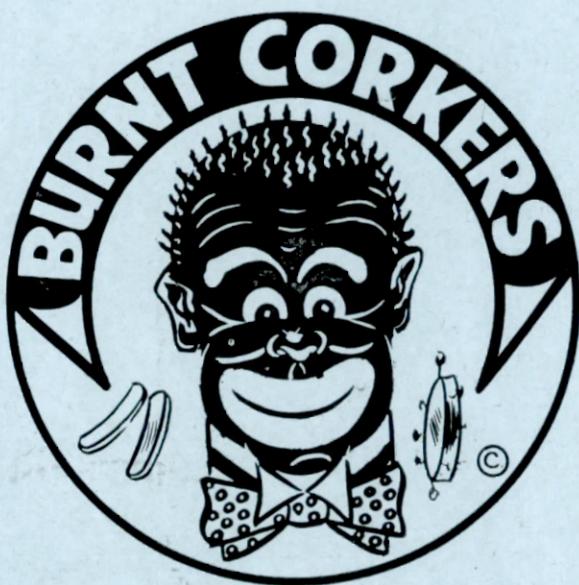
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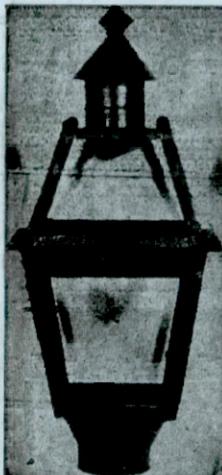
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